598.208

CATALOGUE

OF

CASES OF BIRDS

IN THE

DYKE ROAD MUSEUM,

BRIGHTON.

Giving a few descriptive notes, and the localities in which the specimens were found.

BEING A SUPPLEMENT TO THE

THIRD EDITION

---

by A. F. GRIFFITH.

All rights reserved.

Brighton:
TRILL & SONS, PRINTERS,
21 AND 22, DUKE STREET,
1909.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

Smithsonian Institution
OCT 20 1909
National Museum
208947

QL
677.2
B66 Suppl.
1909
Birds

CATALOGUE

OF

CASES OF BIRDS

IN THE

DYKE ROAD MUSEUM,

BRIGHTON.

Giving a few descriptive notes, and the localities in which the specimens were found.

BEING A SUPPLEMENT TO THE

THIRD EDITION

---

by A. F. GRIFFITH.

All rights reserved.

Brighton:
TRILL & SONS, PRINTERS,
21 AND 22, DUKE STREET,
1909.

1433—7/10/09—1000

CONTENTS.

—o—

	Page
Introduction ...	iv.
Preface ...	v.
Levantine Shearwater	1
Pallas's Sand-Grouse	1
Snowy Owl ...	2
Honey Buzzard ...	2
Gadwall ...	3
American Bittern...	3
Greenland Falcon	4
Solitary Snipe ...	4
Fork-tailed Petrel	5
Wilson's Petrel ...	6
Water Pipit ...	6
Tawny Pipit ...	6
Richard's Pipit ...	7
Hobby ...	8
Red-footed Falcon	8
Red-throated Pipit	9
Black-headed Bunting	10
Rustic Bunting ...	10
Little Bunting ...	11
Lesser Grey Shrike	11
Great Grey Shrike	12
Lapland Bunting ...	12
Ortolan Bunting ...	13
Woodchat Shrike...	13
Aquatic Warbler ...	14
Blue-Breast ...	14
Bee Eater ...	14
Golden Oriole ...	15
Hoopoe ...	16
Gyrfalcon ...	17
Little Bittern ...	17
Red-necked Phalarope	18
Grey Phalarope ...	18
Red-necked Phalarope	19
Barn-Owl ...	19
Short-eared Owl ...	20
Garganey ...	21
Avocet... ...	21
Little Auk ..	21
Great Black-backed Gull	22
Fire-crested Wren	22
Pied Wagtail ...	23
Baillon's Crake ...	23
Great Arctic Diver	24
Buffon's Skua ...	24
Scoty Shearwater...	25
Iceland Gull ...	25
Little Gull ...	26
Little Bustard ...	26
Ruddy Sheldrake...	27
Sea Eagle ...	27
Rough-legged Buzzard	28
Goshawk ...	28
Montagu's Harrier	28
Black-throated Thrush	29
Great Reed Warbler	29
Icterine Warbler ...	30
Bohemian Waxwing	30
Crested Lark ...	31
Short-toed Lark ...	31
White-winged Lark	31
Black Lark ...	32
Serin Finch ...	32
Wild Canary ...	32
Pine Grosbeak ...	33
Rose-coloured Pastor	34
Roller	34
Great Bustard ...	34
Common Dotterell	35
Night Heron ...	35
Glossy Ibis ...	36
Pectoral Sandpiper	36
Spotted Sandpiper	36
Purple Heron ...	36
Little Crake ...	36
Red-necked Grebe	37
Whiskered Tern ...	37
Little Gull ...	38
Great Northern Diver	38
Great Skua ...	38

INTRODUCTION.

No one will lightly attempt a supplement to Booth's Catalogue of his cases who has entered fully into the spirit of that Catalogue. Does Booth not say in his 1876 Introduction "The few notes and facts I have recorded are solely the result of personal observation, and with two other exceptions (all noted) not a book of reference has been opened." Look at his notes on the Gannet (case 153), the Raven (case 97), the Merganser (case 249), and the large Wheatears (case 147); or again read what he says under the head of Knot (case 150), or Pomerine Skua (case 219), the Lesser Black-backed Gull (case 217), or Snipe (case 186); and any true lover of birds will recognise how hopeless it is to try and supplement his work on equal terms. Nothing but the necessity of cataloguing the additions which have been made to his collection since his death, can justify the Editor's work. But if in any degree, and in one or two instances, he can catch the spirit of the master, he will be content.

A. F. GRIFFITH.

Editor.

Brighton, October, 1909.

PREFACE.

CONSIDERABLE progress has been made during the last 15 years in continuing the collection of British Birds formed by the late Mr. Booth, which included 226 species, many of which were exhibited in several different stages of plumage and occupied 308 cases, while 7 species remained uncased at his death. As many as 73 further species have been obtained, while 43 new cases have been finished or are in hand.

Mr. Borrer's collection, purchased partly by subscription and partly by Town funds, in 1901, contained no less than 43 species which had not been obtained by Mr. Booth. Most of them are Sussex specimens. The collection formed by Mr. Monk at Lewes was similarly acquired in 1905 and contained 22 species, all obtained in Sussex, and many of the greatest rarity, which Mr. Booth had never succeeded in getting, though several of these species had been already acquired with the Borrer collection. The collection formed by the late Bishop Wilberforce, of Oxford, was given in 1903 by his son, Mr. R. G. Wilberforce, and contained eight species which we required, all also obtained in Sussex. Many others have been given by various donors as stated below, and a few have been purchased from time to time.

The following donations have been made (in addition to the subscriptions received for the purchase of the Borrer and Monk collections):—

Mr. Bain (of Benbecula)	...	Fork-tailed Petrel.
Mr. P. E. Coombe	...	do. do. Red-footed Falcon. Golden Oriole (female). Black Lark. Little Bustard.
Mr. Allan Cooper	...	Hoopoe.
Mr. R. Eden Dickson	...	Little Bittern.
Mrs. Gordon (of Harting)	...	Ruddy Sheldrake (female).
Mrs. Griffith ...	...	Solitary Snipe.

Mr. A. F. Griffith ...	Barn Owl (Dark variety). Lesser Grey Shrike, in its case. Great Reed Warbler. Icterine Warbler. Pied Wagtail (Autumn plumage). Red-necked Phalarope, nest and eggs. Little Crake. Red-necked Grebe (immature).
Mr. D. Hack	Goshawk. Red-footed Falcon. Rose-coloured Pastor. Pine Grossbeak. Night Heron. Grey Phalarope (Summer plumage). Red-necked Grebe (Summer plumage). Little Gull (Summer plumage).
Mr. J. Eardley Hall ...	Pine Grossbeak. Bee Eater. Little Bittern (Summer plumage). Whiskered Tern.
Mr. H. L. Hansard ...	Glossy Ibis.
Mr. Harman ...	Red-necked Grebe.
Mr. G. Haycock (Bequest) ...	5 Pallas's Sand-Grouse.
Mr. H. Langton ...	Great Grey Shrike.
Mr. A. D. Laurie ...	Fork-tailed Petrel.
Sir John Campbell Orde, (Bart.) ...	Short-eared Owl (Nesting plumage).
Rev. W. D. Parish ...	3 Avocets.
Messrs. Pratt & Sons ...	Bernacle Goose.
Mr. Neale R. F. Rippingall	2 Sand Grouse.
Mr. Ernest Robinson ...	Ruddy Sheldrake (male). Puffin (Winter).
Capt. R. Sandeman ...	Pair of Adult Gadwall.
Mr. Frederic Smith ...	Great Grey Shrike.

Mr. Swaysland	...	Golden Oriole (Female). Fork-tailed Petrel.
Rev. W. B. Tracy	...	Pied Flycatcher (Autumn plumage).
Mr. Frank Trangmar	...	Pair of Hobbies.
Mr. Henry Willett	...	Barn Owl (Dark variety). Little Bittern. Glossy Ibis. Baillon's Crake.
Mr. P. A. Willett	...	2 Dotterell (Autumn plumage).
Mr. R. G. Wilberforce (from the collection of his late father, the Bishop of Oxford)	...	Sea Eagle. Montagu's Harrier. Woodchat Shrike. Golden Oriole. Water Pipit. Waxwing. 2 Little Gulls. Smew. Great Northern Diver (Winter). Great Skua.

The best thanks of the Committee are due also to Mr. E. Robinson of Saddlescombe, and Mr. H. Langton, for their assistance in obtaining several of the above mentioned gifts; to the late Mr. G. E. Foster of Brooklands, Cambridge, for his invaluable help in getting the Red-necked Phalarope with their nest and eggs; and to Mrs. Heathcote for her kindness in making artificial flowers for several of the new cases; also to the subscribers for the purchase fund of the Borrer Collection and the Monk Collection, viz. :—

For the Borrer Collection—

Mrs. Borrer.
Mr. A. F. Griffith.
Mr. Langton.
Mr. Henry Willett.

For the Monk Collection—

Mrs. Monk.
Mr. A. F. Griffith.
Mr. D. Hack.
Mr. S. R. Penney.
Mr. E. Robinson.

In Mr. Booth's case of Manx Shearwaters (No. 230) is one bird much darker, and with longer beak, than its fellows. In his "Rough Notes" Mr. Booth drew attention to its peculiarity, and it has recently been identified (by the late Mr. Howard Saunders) as a very rare British visitor, the Levantine Shearwater, a description of which, followed by a description of the cases added since the 3rd edition of the Illustrated Catalogue was issued in 1901, and then by a short note on uncased specimens acquired since the same date, constitutes the appended Catalogue.

The following account of the late Mr. William Borrer, the historian of the "Birds of Sussex," whose collection has added so many rarities to this Museum, will be welcome here.

William Borrer, was born at Barrow Hill, Henfield, January 18, 1814. He inherited a love of Natural History from his father (the noted botanist and friend of Sir Joseph Banks), Sir William Hooker, and other pioneers in systematic Natural History to whom Barrow Hill was so hospitable a centre.

He first went to Mr. Baton's School at Eastergate, near Chichester, then to Dr. Rusden's at Leith Hill, Surrey. After reading for a time with the Rev. William Guille, the Vicar of Egham, he went up to Cambridge in 1835 where he entered Peterhouse as a Fellow Commoner, taking his B.A. degree in 1839 and his M.A, a few years later. In 1840 he married Margaret, elder daughter of John Hamlyn Borrer, of North House and the Union Bank, Brighton, and in 1842 he settled at Brookhill, the house at Cowfold, Sussex, then newly built, where from that time he resided and kept his collections, though for several years prior to 1892 he regularly spent the winters in Brighton at North House.

He began his Natural History collections as a boy, and pursued them keenly both at Cambridge, and later in Sussex. He had very wide interests in all branches of Natural History but his most complete collections were those of British birds and their eggs, British mammals and British land and fresh water shells. Up to the last, he was adding to his collection of birds eggs. till it included specimens of those of all but four of the species which were then known to have visited Britain.

In his Museum Room at Brookhill he welcomed all who were fond of our British Zoology, entertaining them with stories of his early days at Cambridge, when he shot snipe before breakfast on Coe fen, just behind Peterhouse, went after wildfowl to the Ouse (by Over, where he shot two wild swans, right and left, with snipe shot, and had

seen ruffs in numbers nesting) and obtained Harriers and other birds from the fens, and the last of the old English breed of bustards from the Lakenheath district as recorded not only in his Note, but also by Yarrell & Howard Saunders. Or he would tell with glee how he shot the Eared Grebe in its summer plumage near Shoreham, or bought a Broad-billed Sandpiper out of a bunch of newly killed Dunlin at the same place. Or how he secured some, and failed to secure others, of the rare birds obtained from time to time in the County and especially of his Gyrfalcon, the only mature British specimen known.

His knowledge of the smaller mammals of the County and their habits was very wide and minute and every specimen in his collection had its own special history. He was a keen sportsman, impatient of any slackness in a day's shooting. And he was a close observer of live birds and mammals, with the faculty, most valuable to one fond of natural history, of sitting still. Those who have watched the Bank Voles at their ease in the day time will know what this means when they realize that one day, sitting and watching them by his favourite pond at Brookhill, two of these easily scared creatures were playing one on each of his feet.

He would tell of the times, before the advent of railways, when, like all his brother magistrates, he had to ride to Lewes or elsewhere to attend the Assizes, and the way to Brighton was on horseback over the Downs by Truleigh Hill, and when the shooting on Henfield Common was shooting indeed.

In 1892 he published his book on the Birds of Sussex, in which he brought together not only earlier notices of rarities observed by Mr. Knox and other ornithologists who had preceded him in Sussex, but also a vast number of notes of his own. But it should be observed that a chronicler is still needed for the migration of birds in and through Sussex, and that our County affords excellent opportunities for this to anyone in whom knowledge of birds is combined with sufficient spare time.

He died at Brookhill in October, 1898. His collection of British Mammals was presented to Brighton in 1901, as a memorial of so noted a Sussex naturalist, by his nephew, Mr. J. Eardley Hall, of Barrow Hill, and is exhibited in Case 53 in the Zoological Gallery (Room IX.) at the Church Street Museum. His collection of British Birds (except the Great Bustard) was purchased in the same year and the chief gems are to be seen at this Museum.

As mentioned above, the collection of the late

Mr. Thomas James Monk, of Lewes, was purchased in 1905, partly by private subscriptions and partly by a grant from the town, and the rarest of his birds were transferred to the Booth Museum. The following is a list of these, all of which were obtained in Sussex.

Greenland Falcon.
Red-footed Falcon.
Rough-legged Buzzard.
Montagu's Harrier.
Black-throated Thrush.
Red-throated Pipit.
Tawny Pipit.
Richard's Pipit.
Crested Lark.
Short-toed Lark.
White-winged Lark.
Black-headed Bunting.
Rustic Bunting.
Little Bunting.
Serin Finch.
Canary.
Roller.
Great Bustard.
Great Snipe.
Pectoral Sandpiper.
Spotted Sandpiper.
Grey Phalarope (early autumn).
Red-necked Phalarope (winter).

Mr. Monk was born at Lewes on the 10th May, 1830. He was educated at Cranbrook, in Kent, and then went to Rugby, under Dr. Tait, after which he was at Somerset House for a few years. His health failing, he went to Scotland, where he settled at Blair Athol, in Perthshire, till his return to Lewes in 1859 to join his father in business. While living in the Highlands he made Mr. Booth's acquaintance, shooting in Glen Lyon with him and with Sir Samuel Baker, the African Explorer.

A great part of his collection was made at the time when the late Mr. G. Dawson Rowley and the late Mr. Gould were eagerly watching the catches made by the lark netters round Brighton. Mr. Monk joined them in this, and so keen was the pursuit, that every bird-catcher was perpetually on the look out for any new variety or species, sure of finding an immediate purchaser.

He died at Lewes, December 22nd, 1899.

The history of the following birds among the Monk collection has not been found. Any particulars relating to any of them would be much valued.

Marsh Harriers (2).
Eagle Owl.
Rose-coloured Pastor.
Purple Heron (adult).
Pectoral Sandpiper (a second specimen).
Baillon's Crake.
Glaucous Gull (adult).

County Borough of Brighton.

With

The Compliments of the Director.

Public Library,
Museums and Fine Art
Galleries, Brighton.

3 576—6/2/08 —5,000.

CATALOGUE.

LEVANTINE SHEARWATER.

Case 230.

The darker plumaged bird to the right belongs to this well defined race or species, which is an extremely rare visitor to our seas.

In his "Rough Notes," Booth mentions that he got this bird on August 19th, 1874, in the Firth of Forth. It was a calm day, and numbers of Kittiwakes and Guillemots were scattered over the sea in flocks as far as the eye could reach, with small parties of Shearwaters dispersed amongst them, swimming from one spot to another, occasionally skimming the water with their beaks, and sometimes allowing the boat to come within 20 or 30 yards, He secured a few specimens that morning with perfectly white breasts. Also this one in which he observed that the plumage of the throat, breast and belly was of a uniform dusky grey, It will be observed that the plumage of the back is also duller and the beak longer than in the true Manx Shearwater.

PALLAS'S SAND-GROUSE.

Case 308.

These wanderers from the Central Asian steppes occasionally migrate westward in considerable numbers, and, though excessively rare in Britain at other times, are then obtained somewhat commonly. Such an immigration happened in 1888, and some of the visitors survived the winter and even succeeded in nesting the following spring.

The two specimens to the right hand of the case were obtained in 1888 near Langham, Norfolk, and were presented by Mr. Neale F. R. Rippingall. The upper one is a male, the bird on the ground a female.

The other specimens were shot at Cley, in North Norfolk, the same year by the late Mr. George Haycock, who bequeathed them to this Museum. Of these, one male (to the left) and one female (in the middle), are stuffed flying. The males can be distinguished both by their bright chestnut colouring above, and by their longer tail feathers; but the strangely pointed wings and short closely feathered legs and feet are common to both sexes.

SNOWY OWL.

Case 310.

Among Arctic snows and lichen-clad rocks is the home of this magnificent bird, which strays southward occasionally in the winter, but only as a rare visitor even to our northern shores. This specimen was shot in the Orkneys, December, 1837. (From the Borrer Collection).

HONEY BUZZARD.

Case 311.

Within the recollection of persons still living (1909) this fine long-necked Buzzard nested regularly in the New Forest. Mr. Jenkinson (of Crowborough) when living in Hampshire has found the nest on more than one occasion. Now it appears to be a rare visitor only. It feeds on caterpillars and other insects and is especially fond of the grubs of wasps and bees. The bird in the centre of the case is a young male. It was shot by Mr. Alfred Smith in Shave Wood, Albourne, Sussex, September 18th, 1845, while scraping out a wasp's nest. The left

hand bird is an adult male, which was shot in the summer of 1837 in Ashburnham Park, Sussex.

Both these are from the Borrer Collection (see "Birds of Sussex," p. 20 and plate opposite p. 5).

The bird on the right was shot at Pett Level, Rye, October 20th, 1899, and was acquired by purchase.

GADWALL.

Case 312.

Mr. Booth only met with this rare duck on two occasions. The two immature specimens to the left of the case were shot by him on December 15th, 1881, on Hickling Broad, Norfolk. They are both young drakes in their first autumn plumage.

See "Rough Notes," Vol. III, Plate VII.

The adult pair to the right of the case were shot at Croxton Park, Thetford, Suffolk, Jan. 20th, 1900, and were presented by Captain R. Sandeman.

AMERICAN BITTERN.

Case 313.

Several specimens of this American species have been obtained in Great Britain, all of which must have crossed the Atlantic, as they are not known to breed outside North America. Various theories have been broached to explain how so long a flight can be sustained. Some suggest that the half floating "Gulf weed" may not only act as a guide but also afford resting places. Others, that the birds may rest on the numerous ships which trade between this country and America.

This bird was shot by Mr. Knight, November 30th, 1879, from a patch of reeds in Amberley Wildbrooks, Sussex, and was acquired by Mr. Borrer.

"Birds of Sussex." p. 322.

GREENLAND FALCON.

Case 316.

Three different, but closely allied, species of large falcons, all formerly known as Gyrfalcons, inhabit the northern shores of the Atlantic. The home of one, to which the name Gyrfalcon is now usually confined, is in Norway. It has little or no white in the plumage. Another, with pale brownish grey plumage, (see Case 347), each feather on the back of the adult being tipped and barred with white, nests in Iceland from which it takes its name; while the third, in which the adult is pure white, with each feather on the body barred with brownish grey, is called the Greenland Falcon, as its home is in that inhospitable region, whence it occasionally wanders as far south even as the Scilly Islands.

Our bird was acquired with the Monk Collection. It is a female, and was shot on the top of Bullocks Hill near Balsdean, on the Downs between Brighton and Rodmell, September 26th, 1882. It had been seen in the neighbourhood a day or two previously, and according to one observant countryman, who had seen it flying along the north slope of the Downs, it looked like a newspaper blown along open in the wind. However that may be, having been shot, it was brought into Lewes Market, where it was bought by Mr. Monk. It measured 4 ft. 4 ins. across the wings and weighed 3lbs. 11ozs., and had almost completed its autumn moult. *See "Birds of Sussex," p. 6.*

It was re-stuffed by Pratt in 1906.

A bird of the same species had been seen near Lyme Regis by the late Mr. H. Swaysland of Brighton, on June 11th of the same year. Two days later it was seen (as narrated in the *Ibis*) to kill a tame pigeon at Seaton.

SOLITARY SNIPE.

Case 319.

This case was designed for the late Mr. Monk, and 3 out of the 4 birds were his, having been ob-

tained in the neighbourhood of Lewes. One, a female, weighed 7 ozs. It was obtained 10th Oct., 1867. The remaining specimen (the one on the extreme left) was obtained near Oxford, October, 1867, where it was purchased by the late Mr. J. R. Griffith. It was presented by the late Mrs. Griffith, in 1893.

FORK-TAILED PETREL.

Case 320.

These birds are resident in St Kilda and one or two other islands of the Outer Hebrides; they are occasionally obtained in stormy weather on our southern coasts. Two birds are stuffed in a flying position. The one nearest the front of the case was found lying dead under telegraph wires at Creagorry, Benbecula, Outer Hebrides, November 5th, 1894, and was presented by Mr. William Bain, of that place. The other flying bird, a female, was picked up in Arundel during a gale, on Nov. 20th, 1893, and brought to Mr. P. E. Coombe who presented it in 1903. Two others are perching on the stones of which the old wall is built. One of these was shot at Loch Melford, Argyleshire, September 28th, 1891 by Mr. A. D. Laurie, who presented it to the Museum. The fourth (with its head in the hole) was picked up dead* on the Brunswick Lawns, Brighton, in the winter about 1870 and was purchased in 1895.

The specimen of Helix Caperata is from Benbecula and those of Bulimus Acutus are from close to Flora Macdonald's birthplace in South Uist.

An adult bird was caught in a lark net near the Cement Works, Beeding, Sussex, September 17th, 1907, in bright, calm, weather. It seems extraordinary that such a sea-loving bird should then have been found some three miles inland.

* As to the way in which this species flies in to land during severe gales, and is then attracted to puddles of water (where presumably light is reflected), see Dawson's *Ornithological Miscellany*, Vol. II., p. 108.

WILSON'S PETREL.

Case 321.

This long-legged Petrel, though abundant in the South Atlantic and in the West Indies, wanders but rarely to our coasts, though it was seen in abundance on one occasion, in 1838, off the Cornish coast by the late Mr. Gould.

Our bird was obtained in 1866 by a man named Whiteley, of Rye, Sussex, and purchased by the late Mr. Borrer, from Bristow, a birdstuffer at St. Leonard's, in 1891.

WATER PIPIT.

Case 323.

The pale specimen, which was shot by a Brighton College boy on the shingle banks between Shoreham Harbour and Brighton, in the winter of 1859-60, was the first British specimen recognised of this rare species. It was secured by the late Bishop Wilberforce (of Winchester) in 1864, and presented to this collection by his son, Mr. R. G. Wilberforce, in 1903. Another was obtained about the same time at Worthing.

The other two are also Sussex specimens, from the Borrer collection, one shot at Old Shoreham, August, 1868, and the other at Shoreham, March 9th, 1869.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 103.

TAWNY PIPIT.

Case 326.

This pale-coloured Pipit is a regular visitor to Central Europe, breeding amongst the sand dunes and dry districts of the continent and retiring southward for the winter. Though it breeds freely in the

neighbourhood of the Baltic, it is a very rare visitor to England.

We have three specimens. One of these comes from the Monk Collection and was one of the first to be identified as British, having been caught in a clap-net between Rottingdean and Brighton, September 30th, 1864. It is a male.

Another was acquired by purchase. It was killed near Rottingdean, Sussex, by Mr. G. R. Guthrie, September 6th 1869. It was in company with another bird of the same species, and their note attracted attention, being very different from that of the other Pipits.

Another, from the Borrer Collection, was caught near Brighton, Oct., 1871.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 105.

RICHARD'S PIPIT.

Case 327.

This case was designed for the late Mr. Monk. It contains three of his specimens, all of which were obtained in the neighbourhood of Brighton, in January, 1865, in 1867 (Oct. 9th), and in October, 1868. The remaining two birds (in the right hand part of the case) were caught in lark nets on Clayton Hill, near Brighton, in 1869, and come from the Borrer Collection.

This species has the claw of the hind toe as long as that of a lark and is the largest of our Pipits. Its home is in North Asia, but occasionally specimens wander on migration to Western Europe; led on, it is supposed, by companies of other species who migrate regularly in this direction.

Mr. Dawson Rowley in the *Zoologist* (1865 p. 9466) gives an interesting account of the capture of one of these specimens (the middle bird, toward the back of the case). It was sent up to his house alive by Mr. Swaysland the bird-stuffer in Queen's Road,

on the evening of January 20th, 1865, having been taken by a birdcatcher in a clap net at Toads Hole, near Hangleton, about a mile and a half from the sea. The man who caught it was struck by its loud note and drove it about for nearly 2 hours before he could get it into the net. Ultimately he managed to "pull" the net over just as it flew across, being put up by sheep feeding in the field. There was nothing to attract it in the net, but being an expert hand, he succeeded in a way Mr. Rowley says he had often seen used by birdcatchers, and which astonished him much when he first became acquainted with it. Four outer feathers of its tail had been, as he supposed, shot away, and the stumps of the new ones were just showing. He also mentions that it had passed into Mr. Monk's collection.

(See also "Birds of Sussex," p. 103)

HOBBY.

Case 328.

These hawks breed, though rarely, in Sussex. The pair in the case were shot on their nest near Firle, Sussex, at Whitsun, 1869, by Mr. Frank Trangmar, of Brighton, who presented them to the Museum in 1897.

RED-FOOTED FALCON.

Case 329.

The middle one of these three birds, an adult male in fine plumage, was shot by Walter Swaysland near the Brighton Racecourse, May 20, 1870, and was acquired by the late Mr. Monk of Lewes.

Mr. Dawson Rowley, in his *Miscellany*, Vol. 1, p. 58, records this bird. It had been feeding on two sorts of beetles, and he mentions that after two days it became very high "as is usually the case with those birds which live on beetles and some other

insects." Mr. Borrer mentions (*Birds of Sussex*, p. 10,) that he had himself seen this bird at Swaysland's shop, in the flesh.

Another, to the right, is an immature male; but like the mature male, it has the lower feathers on the thigh bright red. It was shot at Hooe, near Bexhill, on the 15th April, 1899, by George Sargent, a butcher who then lived there, but afterwards moved to Pevensey. It was stuffed by Bristow and presented to the Museum in 1908 by Mr. P. E. Coombe.

The third, to the left of the case, is an adult female, which was killed at Ashford in Kent on the 9th or 10th June, 1908 by Butler, a keeper there. It was brought in to Bristow's, where Dr. Ticehurst, of St. Leonards, saw it on the 11th in the flesh and quite fresh. It was presented by Mr. D. Hack in 1908.

These birds are exceedingly rare visitors to Britain, from the south-east of Europe, where they nest (often in companies of three or four pairs), appropriating the nests of rooks. On the 18th April, 1909, I saw three of these birds hunting along the northern extension of Mons Sacer (of plebeian fame), just outside Rome. So far as I could ascertain their quarry consisted of the lizards which abound there.

RED-THROATED PIPIT.

Case 330.

The migrations of this bird, which breeds throughout the Arctic regions of the old world, takes it abundantly southward from China through to Spain. Yet it so rarely swerves across the North Sea to accompany the hosts of migrants to our island, that only two or three specimens have yet been obtained in Britain, of which ours was the first. It was caught in a bird net near Brighton, March 13th, 1884, and brought to Swaysland (a bird-stuffer in Queen's Road) from whom it was purchased by the late Mr. Monk.

Mr. J. H. Gurney, who saw it in the flesh, records (in the *Zoologist* for 1884, p. 192) that the whole of the breast was richly suffused with bright rufous, some of the colour extending to the belly and eyebrows. The legs were darker than those of a meadow pipit.

See also "Birds of Sussex," p. 102.

Mr M. G. Nicholl (formerly of Eastbourne, but now of the Ghizeh Museum, Lower Egypt) is strongly of opinion that our bird is nothing but an unusually fine Meadow Pipit. His opinion is of great weight. But the distinctions between the two species are very fine, and he did not see the bird when freshly killed.

BLACK-HEADED BUNTING.

Case 331.

This is the bird mentioned by the late Mr. Gould, in the *Ibis* for 1869, page 128. It was shot by the late Robert Brazenor early in November, 1869, near the Windmill on the Brighton Race-course, as it was following a flock of Yellowhammers. He brought it to Mr. Gould, who found it to be a mature female.

The species nests in the south western parts of Europe and is one of the rarest of the visitors to Britain; it will be seen to be very different in appearance from the Reed Bunting, which is often called (and very naturally so) the Black-headed Bunting. Both sexes of the Reed Bunting have a more or less black head, while, in this rare species, the head of the female has scarcely any black on it.

Our bird passed into the late Mr. Monk's collection, with which it was acquired for the Museum.

See Borrer's "Birds of Sussex," p. 121.

RUSTIC BUNTING.

Case 332.

Like the last species, this is one of our rarest

birds, and its home is in Siberia, extending to North Russia in the summer and China in the winter. This specimen was caught near Brighton, October 23rd, 1867, and is figured in Gould's "Birds of Great Britain." It was acquired with the Monk Collection.

It was the first obtained in Britain, and it was not until 14 years afterwards (in September, 1881) that a second specimen was obtained, this time at Easington, on the Yorkshire coast, by the schoolmaster there.

See Borrer's "Birds of Sussex," p. 117.

LITTLE BUNTING.

Case 333.

This Bunting, like the last, nests in Siberia. Though its winter quarters are chiefly in China and India, yet a few are found in the Mediterranean countries on migration. In Great Britain, however, it is excessively rare, our bird being the only specimen known to have occurred, prior to 1901 at any rate. It was taken in bird nets near the old naptha works, close to the site of the present Roedean School, near Brighton, Nov. 2nd, 1864, and identified by the late Mr. Gould. Mr. Monk acquired it for his collection, with which it was purchased for this Museum.

See Borrer's *Birds of Sussex*, p. 117; *Ibis* 1864, p. 113; and Rowley's *Ornithological Miscellany*, Vol. 1, p. 90.

LESSER GREY SHRIKE.

Case 334.

This, one of the rarest of our British birds, was shot at Bosham, near Chichester, Oct. 14th, 1905, and was stuffed by Mr. George, the bird stuffer in West Street, Chichester. It is an immature bird, and when it was shot it was seen flitting from bush to bush, following down the course of a stream.

It was bought and presented, with the case, by Mr. A. F. Griffith.

GREAT GREY SHRIKE.

Case 335.

The bird to the left was shot by Mrs. Beard at Heathfield Park, Sussex, March 5th, 1888. It was given by Mr. H. Langton.

Another is represented as reaching up to a Wren, which it has impaled on a thorn, from which habit towards insects and small birds this species, with its commoner congener, the Red-backed Shrike, derives its name of Butcher Bird.

This bird was presented by Mr. Frederick Smith, of Loddington, near Maidstone, who shot it there on February 21st, 1898. It was sitting very upright on the top branch of a tall oak tree.

The third bird, flying, was shot in December, 1839, on Beeding Level, near Bramber Castle, Sussex. It was wounded only, and on the man going to capture it, it bit him severely. This specimen comes from the Borrer Collection.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 36.

LAPLAND BUNTING.

Case 336.

This rare visitor has been obtained most often in Norfolk and Sussex. The severe winter of 1900-1 brought them over in considerable numbers to the former county, when several were also observed in Sussex. Two of the specimens in the case (the front one in the middle of the case and the back one to the left) were caught November 5th, 1890, on the Downs, near Brighton. The male and female in summer plumage were obtained alive near Yarmouth (Norfolk) the same autumn, and kept in an aviary till the following spring. The large bird in the bottom right hand corner is a male from the Borrer Collection. It was caught in a bird net on the Downs, near Brighton, Sept. 30th, 1844. The

other three specimens were shot at Cley-by-the-Sea (Norfolk) during the same winter.

ORTOLAN BUNTING.

Case 337.

Though common enough on the other side of the Channel, the Ortolan rarely crosses over into Britain, except as a captive, fattened for the epicure's table. The uppermost bird and that in the bottom right hand corner are two specimens from the Borrer Collection; one, an adult male in summer plumage, caught with birdlime on the Dyke Road in 1870; the other, a female, obtained between Brighton and Lewes in February, 1877. (See "Birds of Sussex,' p. 121).

The two other birds in the case were acquired by purchase and were both obtained in Sussex in 1898, the female at Castle Hill, near Rottingdean, on April 21, and the male on the brickfields to the east of Eastbourne on June 29.

WOODCHAT SHRIKE.

Case 338.

Of the two birds in this case one is an adult male, shot by the late Mr. Henry Pratt, jr., F.R.A.S., at Preston, near Brighton on May 4th, 1866. When first he noticed it, it was on the ground, then it flew into a thornbush where he shot it. The stomach contained portions of beetles and other insects. This bird was acquired by Bishop Wilberforce (of Winchester), and presented to this collection in 1903 by his son, Mr. R. G. Wilberforce.

(See Borrer's "Birds of Sussex," p. 39)

The other, near the bottom left hand corner, which comes from the Borrer Collection, is also an adult male. It was shot near Fairlight Church, Sussex, July 29th, 1892.

AQUATIC WARBLER.

Case 340.

This bird was shot by Mr. Pratt, in an old brick pit at Hove, Sussex, 19th October, 1853, being the first specimen of this rare species recognised as having been obtained in Great Britain. It was bought by Mr. Borrer, with whose collection it was acquired for the Museum.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 67, and Howard Saunders' "Manual," p. 79.

(The case was originally designed by the late Mr. Monk for some of his Grebes.)

BLUE-BREAST.

Case 341.

The Blue-breast is a rare visitor to England, arriving occasionally on its migrations from its Arctic breeding grounds to southern winter quarters. They have rarely been observed inland in this country, but merely rest where they alight on the sea shores before proceeding on their long journey.

One here exhibited is an adult in perfect plumage (from the Borrer Collection), caught October 1st, 1862, between Brighton and Stanmer Park, by a boy who knocked it down with a stick; it spread out its tail when perching.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 54.

The other is an immature specimen obtained at Cley-by-the-Sea, Norfolk, September, 1891, by Edward Ramm. (Acquired by purchase).

BEE EATER.

Case 342.

These exotic looking birds seem out of place among our soberly plumaged natives. Indeed they are but very rare visitors, though when they do

come, it is sometimes in small though scattered flocks. Thus three were shot in the Ashburnham district in June 1905, one of which is here. It is an adult male, shot June 5th at Burwash, by a man named Carley. He saw three together and thought they were Kingfishers.

Bristow, the St. Leonards naturalist, saw one at Brightling about the same time but failed to shoot it. It flew out of a hedge in a high wind and was carried away, so that he could not find it again. Another was shot at Dallington a few days earlier (May 31st) and is now in Mr. Fleetwood's Ashburnham collection. Ours was presented to the Museum in 1908 by Mr. J. Eardley Hall, and is seated on the root projecting from the face of the sand.

The other bird was shot at Icklesham, Sussex, in August 1836, and comes from the Borrer Collection (see "Birds of Sussex" p. 171). It was mounted by Mr. Martin of Hastings, and passed into Mr. Ellman's collection, from which it was acquired by Mr. Borrer.

GOLDEN ORIOLE.

Case 343.

These rare and strikingly plumaged birds have a wonderful power of hiding themselves from observation. But they are rare enough in England to be the object of everyone who can hold a gun, when once they have been seen; so that very few survive to nest here, as they would doubtless do more frequently if left in peace.

The less brilliant specimens are adult females. The one to the left was obtained at Oving (about 3 miles south-east of Chichester) in April, 1870, having been picked up in a dying condition by a boy on the roadside, and was presented to the Museum by Mr. P. E. Coombe in 1903. That perching in the middle of the case was killed by a cat in Kemptown, Brighton, June 5th 1907, and was given by Mr. Swaysland.

The other two are adult males. That to the right was shot by Mr. Newman at Charleston, on the Cuckmere River, Sussex, in May, 1833, and comes from the Borrer Collection.

The remaining specimen comes from the collection of the late Bishop Wilberforce (of Oxford) and was given to the Museum by his son, Mr. R. G. Wilberforce, in 1903. It is one of a pair which were seen in the garden of Preston Place (just outside Brighton), on May 4th, 1866, by the late Mr. Henry Pratt, who had just killed the Woodchat Shrike now in this collection. His brother, Mr. John Pratt, after some hunting succeeded in shooting the male bird, but the hen got clear away. There must have been a considerable immigration of the species at that time, one having been observed at St. Just in Cornwall, on April 26th, another near Halesworth, a female, early in May; yet another was found dead, a cock bird, at East Grinstead, Sussex, on May 14th, and a pair were killed at Sidlesham, near Chichester, May 5th.

On April 25th, 1909, I saw a flock of eight of these glorious birds (seven cocks and one hen) in the woods near Camaldoli, just outside Naples. For half an hour or so some or others of them were in full view, flitting about and resting on their migration in the brilliant sun. I fear that few of them escaped the innumerable "sportsmen" who in Italy shoot every bird, however small, which comes within sight, for the cooking pot.

HOOPOE.

Case 344.

The right hand specimen (with its crest lowered) was obtained by the late Mr Booth with Mr. Robinson on his farm at Saddlescombe, near Poynings, Sussex, on the 24th April, 1882. It was found on a bare ploughed field in a high wind.

The left hand specimen (with its crest raised)

was obtained by Mr. Allan Cooper at Norton, Bishopstone, Sussex, in April, 1881, by whom it was presented to the Museum.

See "Rough Notes," Vol. II., Plate 2.

GYRFALCON.

Case 347.

This is especially noteworthy as being probably the only mature specimen of this fine falcon which has ever been obtained in Great Britain. It was shot at Mayfield by R. C. P. Durrant, in January, 1845, during severe weather, while in the act of devouring a pigeon on the top of a wheatstack. (Borrer Collection). It was re-stuffed by Cullingford of Durham in 1903. But one other bird of this species, and that immature, is known to have occured in Britain.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 5 and frontispiece, Howard Saunders' "Manual," p. 334.

LITTLE BITTERN.

Case 348.

This species formerly nested in England, but is now a rare visitor only.

The specimen to the left is a young male, captured alive in a stable at Hove on the morning of September 3rd, 1894. Some of the extraordinary attitudes assumed by this bird after its capture are described in the *Zoologist* for 1894, p. 454, and it is stuffed in one such attitude. It was presented by Mr. Henry Willett.

The bird in the middle was shot by Lord North in September, 1845 at Sandwich, Kent. It was presented by Mr. R. Eden Dickson in January, 1908. It has been re-stuffed in another attitude assumed by the first mentioned bird, stretching its long neck and beak down to the ground.

Towards the right is a magnificent adult male, which was caught by a sheep-dog in a reedy ditch,

at Winchelsea, in Sussex, May 19th, 1901, by the canal in front of Major Stileman's house there. A boy named Masters was with the dog, and the bird was brought to Bristow's to be preserved. It was presented in 1908 by Mr. J. Eardley Hall.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE.—(Nest and Eggs).

Case 349.

This species nests in but few localities in Great Britain. Elsewhere they breed only within or very near the Arctic circle. The pair in the case were obtained in the Outer Hebrides at one shot on June 22nd, 1898, as they played on the shallow loch close to which they nested. The tuft of grass containing the nest was obtained a few days earlier.

These birds were shot and presented by Mr. A. F. Griffith.

GREY PHALAROPE.—(Summer and Autumn).

Case 350.

This Phalarope in its bright ruddy summer plumage seems scarcely to claim kindred with the equally beautiful but less striking grey and white winter bird. This bright ruddy colour is lost almost as soon as the birds leave the high Arctic latitudes in which they nest.

The three specimens to the left of the case shew the summer plumage in three stages. The bird standing on the shingle is in its full nesting plumage, in which state it has very rarely been obtained in Britain. Our bird is an adult female shot May 5th, 1906, at Dungeness, by Fisher, a long-shore man there. It was brought to Bristow, the St. Leonard's naturalist, to be stuffed. He had a male and a second female both in full nesting plumage, and another about half-plumaged, brought to him at the same time. This bird was presented by Mr. D. Hack.

The bird flying near the left side of the case is changing into its autumn plumage. Even in this transitional state of plumage they are very rarely seen in this country. This bird comes from the Borrer Collection, and was shot at Shoreham, Sussex, August 17th, 1844.

The third bird, swimming near by, has some traces on the neck of the summer plumage, and comes from the Monk Collection.

The other birds in this case are from the Monk Collection, and shew the usual autumn or winter plumages They were obtained on the Sussex Coast about 1868.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE.—(Autumn).

Case 351.

Like the Grey Phalarope, this bird soon loses its distinctive summer colouring, on leaving its nesting habitat for the south.

The bird on the right comes from the Borrer Collection. It is a male, shot in a small pond near Old Shoreham, Sussex, about the second week in September, 1845. That on the left is from the Monk Collection.

The feathers on the breast of a Phalarope are particularly close and curved, thus making the breast of the bird look unusually full.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 218.

BARN OWL.—(Dark Variety).

Case 352.

The Barn Owl is one of the most cosmopolitan of birds, being found almost throughout the inhabited world except in Arctic regions. Two forms occur, one of which is common in Britain, and, from the pure white breast and face, is known as the White Owl (*see Case* 54).

Another darker form, though not uncommon in central Europe, is very rare in Britain. The three specimens in the case were all obtained in Sussex; one, stuffed flying, was caught in a barn at Shoreham, October 24th, 1893, and was bought and presented by Mr. H. Willett. Another was killed early in November, 1900, at Rottingdean, and is stuffed holding a mouse in one foot. It was acquired by purchase. The third is not quite so dark as the others. It was obtained in September, 1901, at Shoreham, and was bought and presented by Mr. A. F. Griffith.

Mr. Dawson Rowley in his *Miscellany* (Vol. I., p. 62) records and figures another similar bird which was captured alive in a pigeon house near Brighton.

SHORT-EARED OWL.—(Nest and Young).

Case 353.

This day-flying owl still nests occasionally in the the fens and broads, and breeds regularly in the North of Scotland and the Hebrides. The three young birds in the case were obtained by the late Mr. Booth in Norfolk on June 23rd, 1881.

The old bird with the nest, addled egg, etc., were presented by Sir John Campbell-Orde, having been obtained by his keeper in North Uist (Outer Hebrides), in June, 1897.

It will be noticed that the breeding plumage of this species is strikingly lighter than the autumn or winter plumage (see Case 50).

When disturbed near their nests, I have seen the old birds circling in the air round the intruder, uttering their bark-like note. On one such occasion I saw them rising to a considerable height in the air, and then dropping nearly to the ground, repeatedly making a distinct crack which could be heard at a considerable distance, caused, I believe, by the bird snapping its beaks together.

GARGANEY.—(Nestlings)

Case 354.

The young birds in this case were obtained by Mr. Booth, at Potter Heigham, June 16th, 1883. He states that the mother duck was with them, appearing perfectly regardless of danger on her own account, and seldom attempting to rise on wing until approached within four or five paces. When caught they were beside a high road at least a mile from any marsh which would seem suitable for the nest. The duck is from the Borrer Collection. It was shot at Cottenham, near Cambridge, in the spring of 1835.

AVOCET.

Case 355.

Till near the end of the eighteenth century, this species bred in various localities in England, including Rye in Sussex. It is now a rare visitor only.

The specimens in the case were shot by the Rev. R. N. Dennis on July 14th, 1853, at the upper tide mill near Newhaven, Sussex. They comprise an adult bird and two young of the year. They were presented by the Rev. Chancellor Parish.

See Borrer's "Birds of Sussex," p. 214.

LITTLE AUK.

Case 356.

This species is essentially an Arctic bird, and rarely, if ever, leaves the sea by choice except for breeding purposes. It is seen in winter time not unfrequently in the extreme north of Scotland, occasionally wandering further south, even as far as Sussex. Great numbers were shot all round our coast in the winter of 1894-5. The specimens in the case were obtained in January, 1895, near Stromness, Orkney, and were purchased.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL.
(Immature).

Case 357.

The specimen to the left was obtained in Norfolk, January 13th, 1873.

This case was prepared by Mr. Booth, but was not noticed in his *Descriptive Catalogue*.

FIRE-CRESTED WREN.

Case 358.

It seems incredible that such small birds as these can cross the 380 miles of the North Sea safely, and yet it is so, not only with this minute species, but also with their equally small congenors, the Gold-crests, whose migrations are referred to by Mr. Booth on page 18 of his *Descriptive Catalogue*. While many of the latter species remain nesting with us and may be seen and heard throughout the year, the present species is only met with but rarely, and then on migration. They are most readily distinguished from the Gold-crests by the pale streak running from the eye.

Of the six specimens in this case (reckoning from the left to the right) all but the third come from the Borrer Collection. Of the first two, one was killed with a stone near Worthing in November, 1852; the third was obtained near Brighton, October 21st, 1868, (and was acquired by purchase); the next (the upper bird) was found dead in a garden in Brighton, November 5th, 1843; the fifth (the lower bird) was found dead at Shoreham, November 10th, 1854; and the last was captured, as Mr. Borrer was fond of narrating, with lantern and bell, in a shrubbery at Lancing, December 12th, 1846.

This method of catching small birds at night while roosting in ivy and other creepers, or in other snug nooks and corners, is referred to in Rowley's *Ornithological Miscellany*, *Vol. II.*, p. 354; the birds

appear to be bewildered by the sudden light and noise, and can be easily caught.

In his "Author's Apology," prefixed to *The Pilgrim's Progress*, John Bunyan says (in about 1670)

> How does the fowler seek to catch the game
> By divers means? all which one cannot name;
> His gun, his nets, his lime-twigs, *light and bell.*

While sheltering from a shower under a hedge in the high road, on my way from West Grinstead Station to see Mr. Borrer of Cowfold, I saw one of these birds which came within a couple of feet of me, passing rapidly from twig to twig.

This case was designed for the late Mr. Monk, but these birds whose history is known, have been substituted for Mr. Monk's specimens, whose history has been lost.

PIED WAGTAIL.—(Autumn).

Case 359.

For a very short time in the autumn this common species sometimes assumes a canary coloured tint on the light parts of the neck and head. Two specimens in this plumage are here shewn, one of which (an immature bird) was obtained by Mr. Booth, but no record has been found shewing where or when. The other, an adult, was shot by Mr. A. F. Griffith on the river bank near Old Shoreham, November 8th, 1873, and by him given to the collection.

BAILLON'S CRAKE.

Case 360.

A very rare British bird. The left hand specimen is from the Borrer Collection. It was obtained in Lincolnshire. The other was caught in a bird net on the Downs above Brighton, near the Ditchling Road, September 2nd, 1894, and was purchased and presented by Mr. Henry Willett.

It is widely distributed as a nesting bird in Europe, but not far north, and has been known to nest in Britain.

See "Zoologist," 1894, page 427.

GREAT ARCTIC DIVER.

Case 361.

In extreme Arctic regions a larger form than the Great Northern Diver is found, with the beak not only white, but also slightly differing in shape from that of its congener. This Arctic form is very rare in Britain. Here we have an immature specimen, shot by the late Mr. Booth, December 14th, 1872, on Hickling Broad. Mr. Booth describes how, after being wounded, first with the punt gun, and then with a shoulder gun, it charged the punt open-mouthed and would have come right on board if it had not been seized and killed.

In his 'Rough Notes' he drew attention to the large size and weight of the bird, though the distinctness of the Arctic species had not then been noticed.

BUFFON'S SKUA. (Mature)

Case 362.

A mature bird in fine plumage, from the Borrer Collection, is stuffed flying. It was shot while swimming about alone on a flooded meadow in the Adur level near Henfield, October 7th, 1862.

See "Birds of Sussex," p. 280,

The other two mature specimens were shot October 14th, 1879, off Redcar, and were purchased (through the good offices of Mr. T. H. Nelson) in 1898.

Mature birds of this species in summer plumage are readily distinguishable by their long tail feathers, but they are rarely seen in Britain. A very fine specimen flew close past me while sailing in the Outer Hebrides, May 29th, 1894. It was being

mobbed by two Terns. On the same day I saw a large flock of Grey Plover in summer plumage, a sight never to be forgotten; as they turned together in the bright sun, they showed their brilliant black and white summer plumage to perfection.

The immature bird to the left of the case also comes from the Borrer Collection. It was taken with a floating bait off the Chain Pier, at Brighton, November, 1844. The white head is very unusual and observable.

SOOTY SHEARWATER.

Case 363.

This species is an ocean wanderer. So far as the Atlantic is concerned, it is only known to breed in the southern hemisphere; but when not nesting it is found over the whole ocean and especially on the great fishing grounds. It rarely visits our coasts.

Of the two specimens in the case, the bird with outspread wings was picked up dead after a gale about the end of June, 1850, under the cliff at Seaford, Sussex, by Tom Mills, a local fisherman, and brought to Mr. Dennis of Bishopstone.

The other specimen was shot off Hastings on September 3rd, 1890,

Both of these birds are from the Borrer Collection.

(Birds of Sussex, p. 282).

ICELAND GULL.

Case 364.

This immature specimen was shot beyond Rottingdean toward the end of the winter of 1889-90 by a Brighton College boy. It is an Arctic species, seldom wandering so far south even in the immature state. Mature birds have very rarely been observed even in the extreme north of Britain.

The samphire and wild stock in the case were brought from the cliffs near Rottingdean.

LITTLE GULL.

Case 365.

This small but beautiful Gull is one of the group which assume a black head during the summer, and breed on inland waters. It has very rarely been taken in Britain in the full breeding plumage, in which state it vies with the Roseate Tern in beauty.

The left hand bird on the top of the groyne, and the two lower birds, are from the Borrer collection. The first mentioned was shot at Eastbourne, December 6th, 1860, by Ward, a fisherman there. It is in mature winter plumage. That near the left hand bottom corner (which is not quite a mature bird) was shot off Brighton in February, 1877 ; and the third, a very young bird, was shot on the beach at Seaford, after a heavy gale from the east, by the Rev. R. H. Dennis, of East Blatchington, October 16th, 1846, (*Birds of Sussex*, p. 262). It very rarely happens that the species is obtained in Britain in this, its earliest plumage.

The other two are from the Wilberforce collection ; one, which is in the usual immature plumage, was obtained at Shoreham, Sussex, in 1862 ; the other, in mature winter plumage, stands on the top of the groyne about the middle of the case ; it was killed close off Brighton in 1870.

LITTLE BUSTARD.

Case 366.

The bird which is stuffed flying, was shot by Mr. L. N. Graburn on Wepham Farm at Burpham, Sussex, December 16th, 1901. It was originally stuffed by a local bird stuffer but soon afterwards restuffed by Pratt, though too late to preserve the under wing coverts. This bird was acquired by purchase.

The other, an adult female, was shot November

28th, 1901, in a turnip field at Pagham, near Chichester, by Mr. Scott, the farmer there. It weighed 11lb 14oz. It was bought in the flesh by Mr. P. E. Coombe, by whom it was presented to this collection in 1903.

The home of the species is in the southern parts of Europe, especially in Spain and the south of France, where it nests considerable numbers.

RUDDY SHELDRAKE.

Case 367.

This beautiful species is a very rare visitor to England from the south. The smaller specimen in the case is a female, obtained September 12th, 1890, by the late Rev. H. D. Gordon at Harting, in the extreme west of Sussex, and presented to this Museum by his widow on his death in 1897.

(See 'Zoologist,' 1890 p., 395.)

The larger bird is a drake, one of a pair which were seen and shot at by a man named Southerden at Jury's Gap, Lydd (just across the Sussex boundary in Kent), on November 15th, 1905. He secured the duck; but this bird, the drake, flew a quarter of a mile or so further on and he lost it. However it was picked up a week later, dead, lying in a pool of water, by a soldier named Standen, who brought it to Bristow, the bird stuffer at St. Leonards. It was bought of Bristow and presented to the Museum in 1908 by Mr. E. Robinson.

Among the birds awaiting casing are the following :—

SEA EAGLE.

An immature bird from the Borrer Collection, was shot at Weesdale Voe, on the Isle of Greena, Shetland, September, 1850.

Another, shot near Lancing, Sussex, by Starley of the Bridge Inn, Shoreham, November 19th, 1863. Wilberforce Collection. Presented in 1903.

ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD.

An adult male, shot near Chichester, about the end of October, 1839, was given to Mr. Borrer by Mr. Freeman, of that city.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 18.

Another, from the Monk Collection, was killed at Firle, Sussex.

GOSHAWK.

Many of the larger birds of prey which were formerly common in England have been almost, if not quite, exterminated amongst us. This is the case with the Goshawk, which is a forest loving species, and deserted Britain as the large forests were cleared. Every farmer and every gamekeeper was against a bird from whose attacks poultry, hares, rabbits and game were never safe. Nowadays the adult birds, with their boldly and regularly barred breasts, are very rarely, if ever, found, even on migration. The young birds with spotted breasts occur extremely seldom, and are among our rarest visitors.

This specimen was presented to the Museum by Mr. D. Hack in 1908. It is an immature female, shot by George Sargeant at Hooe, between Hastings and Hellingly, in Sussex, November 19th, 1904, and was set up by Bristow of Hastings.

MONTAGU'S HARRIER.

Three from the Borrer Collection.

A female, caught on its nest near Whittlesea Mere, Hunts, July 3rd, 1837. The nest contained four eggs nearly ready to hatch.

A mature male, obtained at Reach, Cambridgeshire, May, 1838.

A very richly coloured specimen, shot at Itchenfield, Sussex, by Mr. H. Padwick, of Horsham, in September, 1863.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 25.

Another very richly coloured specimen, shot at Chyngton near Seaford by Mr. H. Molineux, was given to Mr. Monk and acquired with his collection.

Another, shot near Lewes, June 22nd, 1891. Stuffed by Pratt for Mr. Monk.

BLACK-THROATED THRUSH.

Vast numbers of birds nest in the wilds of Siberia, multitudes of which, belonging to certain well-known species, migrate westwards and then southward in the autumn and winter; other species, of which this is one, migrate due south, to spend the winter in India and other parts of Asia. But occasionally stragglers of these latter species appear to be led astray by the flocks of westerly migrants, and thus make their appearance at very rare intervals in western Europe and England. Our specimen is at present (1908) the only one of this species known to have occurred in Great Britain. It is a young male which was shot by a bricklayer near Lewes, December 23rd, 1868, and was taken the same day to Mr. Monk, with whose collection it was acquired in 1905.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 47.

A second specimen has been obtained in Britain since this Supplement was sent to the printers. It was shot at the end of January, 1909, near Newenden in Kent, close to the Sussex boundary.

GREAT REED WARBLER.

It is difficult to understand why certain birds, such as the Crested Lark, the Icterine Warbler and Tawny Pipit, which breed abundantly just on the other side of the Channel, and are themselves migratory, yet cross over so seldom to Britain as to be among our rarest visitors.

This fine Warbler is one that nests commonly in Holland and Belgium and right along the southern

coast of the Channel to Calais. Yet the number of authenticated specimens taken in England is very small.

Our bird is an adult male, shot by Bristow, the St. Leonards birdstuffer, in a brick pit near West St. Leonards Station, September 12th, 1906. He found it in some brambles, where its very harsh note attracted his attention. It was given to the Museum in 1908 by Mr. A. F. Griffith.

Another adult male was shot in the same locality by Mr. M. G. Nicoll (now of the Ghizeh Museum, Lower Egypt) a fortnight later, on the 26th September, 1906, which is in his own collection.

ICTERINE WARBLER.

A very rare straggler to our islands is this bird; though common on the other side of the Channel, nesting as it does commonly throughout Europe, almost, if not quite, up to the Arctic circle. Occasionally a stray bird, from Norway or Sweden probably, accompanies the swarms of other Warblers which strike the north coast of Norfolk each autumn after crossing the North Sea. Its broader bill distinguishes it most readily at first sight from the Willow Warbler group.

This bird, which is an adult male, was shot on May 15th, 1902, at Crockham Hill, Edenbridge, by Mr. E. Southon, a builder there. It was preserved by Bristow and given to the Museum in 1908 by Mr. A. F. Griffith.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING.

Shot in a garden at Newtimber, Sussex, while feeding on hawthorn berries in January, 1848, as recorded by Mr. Knox in his "Ornithological Rambles," p. 202. It was acquired by the late Bishop of Winchester and presented to the Museum in 1903 by his son, Mr. R. G. Wilberforce.

One shot by Mr. Dawson Borrer near Kelso,

Scotland, January 1850; another, an adult male, shot near Hastings, Sussex. From the Borrer Collection.

One from the Monk Collection shot at Newtimber, January, 1848.

CRESTED LARK.

Why is it, though this bird is common in France, it very rarely accompanies the myriads of its cousins the Skylarks, on their annual journey to England? As a matter of fact, it is as rare a visitor as they are numerous.

One of our specimens was taken alive by a birdcatcher near Shoreham, Sussex, October 20th, 1863, and was acquired by Mr. Monk. The other, an adult male, from Mr. Borrer's Collection, was taken by a birdcatcher near Portslade, Sussex, October 10th, 1881.

SHORT-TOED LARK.

Essentially a southern bird, this species appears often to migrate northward to breed, but not usually beyond the southern half of Europe. Occasionally however it overshoots its mark, no doubt led on by the swarms of other migrants which are aiming further north, and thus a very few have been obtained in England. Our bird was taken by a birdcatcher near Brighton in November, 1874, who brought it to Mr. Swaysland, by whom it was sold to Mr. Monk.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 113.

WHITE-WINGED LARK.

Ours (a female) is believed to be the only specimen of this eastern species which has as yet (1908) been obtained in Great Britain. It was taken alive in a net near Brighton, while accompanying a flock of

some two dozen Snow Buntings. This was on Nov. 22nd, 1869. It was shortly afterwards purchased by Mr. Monk of Lewes, with whose collection it was acquired for this Museum.

The home of this lark is the central part of our Continent, in Russia and Turkestan.

"Birds of Sussex" p. 113.

BLACK LARK.

Until 1907 none of these birds were known to have visited us from their ancestral tundras and steppes of Russia and Asia. But in February of that year quite a number of them came over and had, as such visitors are wont to, a warm reception. Over a dozen were seen in Romney Marsh, in Kent, near Lydd, and seven were shot. Others were seen at Crowhurst, in Sussex, between Bexhill and Battle.

(See Bulletin, B.O.C. xix., p. 57.)

Ours is one of those from Romney Marsh, an adult male. It was shot by Tomlin, a "looker" there, on the 18th February, 1907. It was presented to the Museum by Mr. P. E. Coombe in 1908.

SERIN FINCH.

This short beaked, yellow plumaged finch is a native of southern and south eastern Europe, and is a very rare wanderer to England. Three of our specimens come from the Monk Collection. One was caught in a clap net at Hove, April 9th, 1866. The two others were secured by Mr. Monk, one in 1871 and the other, October 31st, 1888. Another, from the Borrer Collection, is a female, caught near Brighton, April 1st, 1873.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 129.

WILD CANARY.

We have three specimens of this bird taken at large near Brighton. Few would recognize them as the progenitors of our favourite cage birds.

The first was caught near Southwick in April, 1864, and passed into Mr. Monk's collection, he at first believing it to be a Citril Finch. Another was obtained by him which was also got near Southwick 1869. Mr. Bond mentions the first of these in the *Zoologist*, 1870, *pp.* 1984 and 2022.

The third was procured in 1905 by Mr W. C. Larmer, of Hove. It was presented to the Museum by Mr. F. A. Crawford, who had kept it meanwhile in a cage for some three weeks.

Great doubt has been expressed whether these birds can have migrated of their own accord from their West African habitat to these islands.

PINE GROSBEAK.

A small flock of these rare visitors from northern pine forests visited West Kent and East Sussex in the autumn of 1905, when several of them were shot, including our two birds. The yellow bird is a female, which was shot by a man named Olliver at Hawkhurst in Kent, October 25th, 1905. He succeeded in getting two others, both of them also yellow birds. A few days later, on October 30th, Carley, a keeper at Ashburnham Park, killed three more, two being rosy males and the other a yellow female, just outside the Park at Netherfield. One of these males is here, given by Mr. D Hack in 1908.

The female, which was exhibited at the British Ornithologists Club and is recorded in their Bulletin (Vol. XIV. p. 47), was given by Mr. J. Eardley Hall.

Late in August, 1906, I was sitting reading Dicey's *Law and Public Opinion in England* in Mrs. Satterthwaite's garden at Skelwith, near Windermere, under the high hedge which separates the garden from the lane in front. Attracted by a strong note I looked up and saw a bird flying down from the trees behind the house. It settled on a garden post not five yards from me but quickly saw me and flew off. It was a Pine Grosbeak, in a

brownish yellow dress, I suppose a young bird. I heard it again the same evening and the next day in the trees above the house, but could never see it again. A day or two afterwards my son saw a small flock of birds fly over the river Brathay just where it widens out into the Windermere Lake, which must from his description have been Two-barred Crossbills. They passed close by his boat, as he was fishing.

ROSE-COLOURED PASTOR.

An adult male, one of two which were shot from the back of a sheep near Brighton, August 20th, 1870, comes from the Borrer Collection.

See "Birds of Sussex, p. 143.

Another, stuffed with extended wings, is also an adult male, shot on Romney Marsh near Appledore, Kent, on the 4th June, 1900. It was presented by Mr. D. Hack.

ROLLER.

Shot at Burnham, Norfolk, September, 1847. (From the Borrer Collection), stuffed flying.

Another from the Monk Collection. A fine male, killed at Isfield, near Lewes, on June 12th, 1873. It was purchased by Mr. R. R. McQueen of Chailey for half a crown, and by him given to Mr. Monk.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 169.

GREAT BUSTARD.

Within the memory of our fathers this, the largest of our indigenous game birds, used to roam in droves over the wide bare expanses of heath and sand on the borders of Norfolk and Suffolk, until these wastes were cut up with the long plantations which serve to break the wind and protect the light soil of the fields there from being blown away. Two or three generations earlier, they abounded on

the Wiltshire plains and the Sussex Downs. They prefer the open, hedgeless country, such as Plumpton Plain in Sussex, and Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire, which though hilly, yet being bare of woods were known as "plain" in distinction to the Weald (or wood) below, where forest was almost continuous.

Though long since banished from Sussex as a resident, yet an occasional migrant visits us, such as this one, a female, which was shot at dusk on January 12th, 1876 at Ripe, near Firle, Sussex by Mr. Horace Tuppen of Chalvington Manor, Sussex. It flew some distance and fell in a wood where it was picked up the next day and sold (for 2/6) to Mr. Bates, the birdstuffer of Eastbourne, by whom it was sold to the late Mr. Monk of Lewes.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 200.

COMMON DOTTERELL.—Autumn.

These specimens, one adult and one immature (no doubt a bird of the year), were shot near Newhaven, September 1st, 1902, by Mr. P. A. Willett of Brighton, and by him given to the collection.

They nest on the tops of a few high mountains in the north of England and Scotland, as well as in the northern parts of Europe and Asia. They arrive on our Downs regularly on migration both in the spring and autumn.

NIGHT HERON.

This bird is a young female. It was shot in Romney Marsh, near Lydd, by a local huckster named Butler, October 30th, 1906. It was stuffed by Bristow at St. Leonards, and given to the Museum in 1908 by Mr. D. Hack.

The adult bird has a very different grey plumage. But either plumage enables the bird to escape observation in its native swamps.

GLOSSY IBIS.

An immature specimen, shot at Broxwood Park, Herefordshire, in October, 1902. Presented by Mr. H. L. Hansard.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER.

Obtained near Eastbourne September, 1870. Stuffed by Bates of Eastbourne, by whom it was sold the same month to Mr. Monk.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER.

Shot in 1884 by a man named Whitely, of Rye, and purchased by the late Mr. Borrer of Bristow, the bird stuffer at St. Leonards, in 1891.

Another, from the Monk Collection, was shot by a man named Lee at the Crumbles ponds, near Eastbourne, in October, 1866. It was stuffed by Bates, who sold it to Mr. Monk.

PURPLE HERON.

An immature bird, shot by Tom Fuller of Lewes, near the ruins of the old Priory, Southover, Lewes. It was bought by the late Mr. Monk, at Mr. J. T. Auckland's sale in December, 1859, when it was authenticated by Fuller's brother, J. Fuller.

LITTLE CRAKE.

One of these very rare birds was hunted out by a dog from the reeds in a brick pit near Eastbourne, Sussex, and flew towards a man who threw his wide-awake hat at it, under which it ran and was taken alive, April 14th, 1869, and sold to Mr. Borrer the following day. It was acquired, with his collection, in 1901.

Another is an adult male, caught by a dog with a Mr. Shepherd at Pevensey, May 7th, 1904. Given to the Museum by Mr. A. F. Griffith in 1908.

RED-NECKED GREBE.

A very large adult, in winter plumage, obtained off Shoreham, Sussex, by Mr. Booth, after the gales of January, 1881.

See "Rough Notes," Vol III., Plate 22.

Another specimen, in immature plumage, was shot off the Chain Pier, Brighton, October 3rd, 1877, by Mr. Harman, who has presented it to the Collection.

Another, also in immature plumage, shot at Cley, Norfolk in 1886, by the late Mr. G. Haycock. Presented by Mr. A. F. Griffith.

A fine adult male in nesting plumage, in which state they are very rare in Britain, was shot at Rye, April 10th, 1907, and brought to Bristow in the flesh by Mr. Kiddall, to whom it had been given by the man who shot it. It was presented to the Museum by Mr. D. Hack in 1908. Mr. M. G. Nicholl informs me that a second was obtained about the same time, probably a pair.

WHISKERED TERN.

Very few of these terns have wandered to these hospitable shores, where a warm welcome is sure to await them. They nest in the great morasses in the South-East of Europe, and round the Levant, along with our rare visitors the White-winged Black Tern (cases 248 and 251) and the much commoner Black Terns (cases 254, 257). Our bird is an adult male in its autumn dress, obtained by John Oliver, a market gardener at Hollington, who shot it at Rye Harbour, on August 10th, 1905. It was stuffed by Bristow of St. Leonards, who had another from Rye and three more from Pevensey at the same time. It was presented to the Museum in 1908 by Mr. J. Eardley Hall.

Another, obtained about the same time, is at the Hastings Museum.

Mr. M. G. Nicholl, writing of our bird, says that he was at Rye Harbour on the day when it was

shot, and saw and spoke to Oliver, but never asked him to turn out his bag, as Oliver appeared to be shooting at anything within reach. If he had only done so, we should never have got this bird !

LITTLE GULL.—(Spring Plumage)

As the breeding season comes on, gulls of several kinds assume a black or brownish black head, which passes off again in the autumn. A familiar example is our so called Black-headed Gull (see cases 237 for their summer heads and 236 for their winter plumage).

The Little Gull assumes a beautiful jet black head in spring time, with a delicate rosy tint on the breast, rivalling in both respects the Roseate Tern. It is a rare visitor to Britain in the winter, and a much rarer visitor here in its spring plumage. Ours was shot by a boatman named Southerden, at Jury's Gap, near Dungeness, and just within the boundaries of the County of Kent, on April 7th, 1906. There were several about then, Mr. Bristow having seen two himself at Rye Harbour about the same time, but he could not secure them.

This bird was preserved by Bristow and presented to the Museum in 1908 by Mr. D. Hack.

GT. NORTHERN DIVER.

A specimen in winter plumage, shot in West Sussex by Mr. R. G. Wilberforce and presented by him in 1903.

GREAT SKUA.

Caught alive on a hook by some fishermen off Brighton, November 10th, 1846. It was so tame as nearly to allow itself to be taken by the hand. Acquired by Mr. Borrer.

"Birds of Sussex," p. 275.

Another, from the collection of the late Bishop Wilberforce (of Winchester), was shot off Brighton, April 15th, 1864, and was presented to the Museum in 1903 by Mr. R. G. Wilberforce.

HOLLINGBURY CAMP.

This is a very ancient fortified post on a height of the Downs, situated near the Ditchling Road, and between that road and the Lewes Road, from which latter, however, it is separated by a steep hill-side. It was acquired by the Town partly in 1901 and the rest in 1903, subject to conditions that nothing should be done there which would destroy or depreciate the archæological associations of the Camp, and so that the land can only be used for the purpose of a Public Park, Recreation Ground, or Botanical Gardens, and that no building may be erected there and no alcoholic drinks sold thereon.

It was probably constructed in very early times, before the Romans invaded Britain. Only the rampart of earth, with the dry ditch outside, remains. These are here and there levelled. Probably the rampart was originally surmounted with a stockade ; but, if so, no trace can, of course, be expected to remain visible. It is very difficult to realise how the occupants of such camps supplied themselves with water.

Many of the higher summits of the Downs are crowned with similar camps. From Hollingbury can be seen the following, nine in number, commencing toward the South West and following toward the North, and so round to the South East :—

High Down Hill (close to the Miller's Tomb, 4 miles beyond Worthing). Here, in one spot, antiquities of the Bronze Age, and in another, an Anglo-Saxon Cemetery with very fine remains, have been discovered.

Cissbury (3 miles North of Worthing). One of the best known and finest of the hill forts of the South Downs. Great numbers of Neolithic flint implements, mostly of rude manufacture, have been found here. Numerous prehistoric pits with underground galleries, apparently for procuring the flints used for these implements, have been excavated on this site. The picks, made of antlers of red deer, and shovels, made of the shoulder blades of oxen, used by the original excavators have been found in the galleries, some of them with the finger marks of the old, prehistoric users, still plain on the pulverised chalk rubbed into the handles.

Steep Down (3 miles North East of Worthing).

Chanctonbury Ring (6 miles North of Worthing). Planted some 80 years ago with the well-known clump of beech trees. Quantities of broken shards of pottery can be found here, some undoubtedly Roman (including fragments of Roman tiles). Others seem to be pre-Roman.

The Poor Man's Wall (near the Devil's Dyke.

Wolstonbury (6 miles North of Brighton. towards Hurstpierpoint). The most Northerly point of the South Downs, east of Arundel.

Ditchling Beacon (almost due North of Hollingbury Camp, on the north west of the Downs). It is the highest point of Sussex.

Mount Caburn (at the South Eastern corner of the out-lying mass of the Downs between Lewes and Glynde.)

Whitehawk Down. The Camp here is just South of the Grand Stand, but it has been almost entirely obliterated in recent years, having been levelled in connection with alterations to the Race Course.

Mount Harry, the site of the Battle of Lewes, in the Baron's War, can also be seen from this Camp over Stanmer Park.

It is hoped that excavations will be undertaken here in the course of time, which may result in discoveries as interesting as those at High Down or Cissbury.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION LIBRARIES
3 9088 00406573 6
nh m598.208
Catalogue of cases of birds, giving a fe

Brighton Public Library, Museums and Fine Art Galleries.

HOURS WHEN OPEN.

Library.—

Reference Library—10 a.m. to 10 p.m., except Sundays, Good Friday, Christmas Day and Bank Holidays.

Lending Department—10 a.m. to 9 p.m. every week-day, with the exception of Wednesdays, when it is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Lending Library is closed on Sundays, Good Friday, Christmas Day, Bank Holidays, and the first fortnight in July.

News Room—9 a.m. to 10 p.m., except Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Magazine Room—9 a.m. to 10 p.m., except Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Museums—

Church Street Museum—Week-days, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., or earlier dusk, but the Museum is never closed before 5 p.m. Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sundays, 2.30 to 5 p.m.

Booth Museum—Week-days, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., or earlier dusk. Sundays, 2.30 to 8 p.m., or earlier dusk.

Art Galleries—

Permanent Art Gallery—Same hours as the Church Street Museum.

Exhibition Galleries—During Exhibitions only, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on week-days. Sundays, same as the Church Street Museum.

HENRY D. ROBERTS,
Director.